

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 23 because the word "owner" had been misspelled. Claim 23 has been amended to correct the spelling error. The Examiner also rejected claims 1-26 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,330,499 to Chou et al. (Chou et al.)

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for granting and conducting an interview with Applicants' representative on November 4, 2004. The amendments to the claims and the remarks below are consistent with the topics discussed during the interview.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chou et al. for at least the reason that Chou et al. fails to disclose every claim element. For example, independent claims 1 and 14 include, among other things, the step of defining a "testing procedure by selecting from a plurality of pre-defined owner inputs each associated with one or more diagnostic processes[.]" Similarly, independent claims 8, 17, and 23 recite "an owner input device configured to accept a plurality of different owner inputs, each associated with one or more diagnostic processes[.]" Further, claim 20 includes the step of "analyzing one or more sets of machine data based on prior input by an owner selecting a testing procedure for generating said one or more sets of machine data[.]" Chou et al. fails to disclose at least these elements.

In the interview on November 4, 2004, the Examiner agreed that "the prior art did not include the specific limitation of 'predefined owner inputs each associated with one or more diagnostic processes.'" The Examiner further suggested that Applicants file a

Request for Reconsideration and indicated that, "the previous 102 rejection will be withdrawn," and that "the next office action will be non-final."

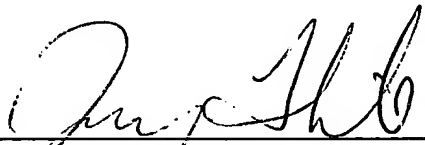
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application, withdrawal of the rejection based on Chou et al., and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 21, 2004

By: 

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